



# TSG Sends

June 3, 2022

Army Medicine Family,

I hope everyone enjoyed time with family and friends over the Memorial Day weekend while we honored our fallen service men and women. I ask that you always keep in your hearts a remembrance of those who fought and died for our Freedoms.

I am honored to announce that the Secretary of the Army has appointed COL Stephen Tanner as the 29th Chief of the Army Dental Corps. This appointment is a testament to his tremendous contributions to Army Medicine and unwavering commitment to the Army Dental Corps. It reflects the supreme confidence and trust he has earned. I have no doubt he will serve selflessly and honorably in this critically important role. Congratulations!

June is Men's Health Month. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the top causes of death among adult men in the U.S. are heart disease, cancer, unintentional injuries, chronic lower respiratory disease and stroke. I encourage all men in our Army Medicine Family to improve their health by seeking medical advice and checkups, making healthy food choices, staying active, quitting smoking, and taking care of their mental health.

Yesterday I was featured on NBC 4 Washington for a segment on my role as the U.S. Army surgeon general. The video can be seen online at:

<https://www.nbcwashington.com/news/local/prince-georges-county/prince-georges-man-is-armys-new-top-doc/3068254/>

Also featured in Allure magazine this month is our own Deputy Surgeon General, MG Telita Crosland, in an article titled, "The New Battle Braids of the U.S. Military". The article discusses the effects of the changes to the Army's grooming standards one year after implementation with African-American Soldiers. Please share and read at:

<https://www.allure.com/story/black-hairstyles-updated-military-guidelines>

## Commander Highlight

This week we meet LTC Patrick Miller who commands the 56th Multifunctional Medical Battalion within the 62nd Medical Brigade; where he has been for nearly two years. He said that commanding a Forces Command unit has always been a dream of his, and he opted in as soon as the opportunity presented itself. "When we are commissioned, the expectation is that we are a leader in the Army," he said. "The pinnacle of leadership is commanding."

Miller said that two back-to-back deployments to Iraq at a young age and when he was new to the Army caused him to grow up quickly. During those deployments, he also developed his ideas of what a battalion commander is. He said he both idolized and emulated his own. "I was really just a sponge for them to pour into," LTC Miller said.

At the 56th MMB, he leads 500 Soldiers and said that, "I love leading Soldiers and fully recognize and appreciate the privilege to lead America's sons and daughters. If I can have close to the influence on others as my first battalion commanders had on me, that is incredibly powerful and meaningful," said LTC Miller.





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LTC Miller, whose area of concentration is as a Health Services Comptroller, didn't always dream of a career in the Army. He had hoped to play football. His parents convinced him to apply for an ROTC scholarship and his father even wrote the essay for him. "I wanted nothing to do with it, but I got the scholarship and I learned to love it," he said. He compares the Army to a big sports team. "Like TSG says, we are professional athletes that play the ultimate contact sport," said LTC Miller. "Being the leader-commander of a team – winning and learning together, leveraging different people's strengths and personalities is all fascinating to me. I love watching people grow and overcome adversity, both individually and collectively."

LTC Miller's wife of a decade is an ER nurse by trade, and they have two small children. He is also a survivor of the 2009 shooting at Fort Hood. That experience has underscored for him the value of quality time with loved ones. Thus, spending his off-duty time with family is very important to him, and as a leader, it's important to him that his Soldiers are able to do the same thing. "Getting home at a decent hour is important. We've got to know when to pull the CAC card," he said.

"Command has made me appreciate people even more than I already had," said LTC Miller. "I'm just lucky and blessed to be a part of it. Command has made me love the Army that much more and has humbled me time and time again. I would tell others who have a chance to command to go for it. Be that leader you've always envisioned or emulated as a young officer. Most importantly, be authentic. Be you. Replicate a lot of the good things from others, and fix (or) eliminate some of the bad traits you've experienced in the past. You will have that power and influence. Don't waste it."

LTC Miller says he is the Buffalo Bills' number one fan in Army Medicine. He looks forward to going to the Army War College this summer to be just a short drive from Buffalo. He also enjoys working out and running marathons.

Thank you, LTC Miller, for talking with us this week. And thank you for your leadership.

Army Medicine is Army Strong! Stay Safe out there!

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**R. SCOTT DINGLE**  
Lieutenant General, U.S. Army  
The Surgeon General and  
Commanding General, USAMEDCOM